

VALE et al.
Appln. No. 09/985,820
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 32-47 and 63 are all the claims pending in the present application. As will be discussed below, Claims 1-31 and 48-62 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment is requested.

Claims 1-31 and 48-62 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,007,557 to Ambrisco in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,879,697 to Ding et al. These claims have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,171,327 to Daniel in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,834,449 to Thompson et al. further in view of Ding '697.

Without admitting that either of these rejections is appropriate, Applicants have cancelled the rejected claims. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application directed to the cancelled claims.

The present Application now contains Claims 32-41 and 63 which the Examiner indicated are allowed. *See*, page 5 of the Office Action dated July 12, 2005. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the Application is requested.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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